

REMARKS**Claim Objections**

Claims 5 and 6 were objected to due to informalities. Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to correct their dependencies.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chang et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,909,392). Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chang et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,909,392) in view of *Chung* (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0185619 A1). Claims 1 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hsu et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,498,752 B1) in view of *Chung* (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0185619 A1). Claims 1-4 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Haddad et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,172,909 B1) in view of *Chung* (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0185619 A1). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation that the NROM cells are short channel cells with channels less than 0.2 microns. This subject matter is disclosed in the specification at paragraph 0022. Therefore, no new matter has been added with this amendment.

The amended claims of the present invention are to erasing a block of memory comprising short channel (less than 0.2 micron) NROM cells. Neither *Chang et al.*, *Chung*, *Hsu et al.*, nor *Haddad et al.*, either alone or in any combination, teach or suggest such an erase method.

CONCLUSION

For the above-cited reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and restriction requirement and allow claims 1 and 3 – 14 of the present application. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please

contact the undersigned at (612) 312-2211. No new matter has been added and no additional fee is required by this amendment and response.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kenneth W. Bolvin
Kenneth W. Bolvin
Reg. No. 34,125

Attorneys for Applicant
Leffert Jay & Polglaze
P.O. Box 581009
Minneapolis, MN 55458-1009
T 612 312-2200
F 612 312-2250